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THE Shammer Shamm'd:

In a Plain

DISCOVERY,

Under

Young TONG'S Own Hand,

OF A

Defigne to *Trepann* L'ESTRANGE

Into a Pretended Subornation against

the POPISH PLOT.

By *Roger L'Eſtrange.*

LONDON,

Printed for *Joanna Brome* at the Signe of the *Gun* in S. *Pauls* Church-yard, 1681.

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A DISCOVERY,

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OF A

Deſigned Treaſon LESTRANGE

Into a Preceded Subornation againſt

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By Roger LESTRANGE.

LONDON,

Printed for Joanna Brome at the Signe of the

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The Shammer Shamm'd. &c.

IT is no new thing for *L'Eſtrange* to be Baited by the Mercenary Agents of a *Seditious*, and Schiſmatical Faction; and 'tis hard to ſay, whether the *Scurrilous Libells*, or the *Obſcure Authors* of them be the more Contemptible: But yet this is a Caſe, wherein I cannot; either with *Honour*, *Safety*, or with *Good Diſcretion* be Silent. In ſhort; There is a Knot of Little Fellows (but under the Government of *better Heads*) that are now at work to Revive the Old Story of my Tampering with *Young Tonge*, to *Invalidate Oates's Evidence*; and Severall Lies and Scandalls are Printed in favour of that Impoſture. My Purpoſe in theſe Papers is, in the firſt place, to lay open, the *Notorious Falſhood*, *and Malice of this Practice*: And 2*ly*, to prove *that very Deſign*, which is *charg'd UPON* me, to be *managed AGAINST* me.

It will not be amiſs to Enform the Reader by the way, that in *October*, 1680. Upon two full hearings before his Majeſty and Councell (in deſpight of all that *Oates* could *ſay*, and *Tong Swear* againſt me) I had the Honour to be twice acquitted by the Unanimous Judgment of the whole Board: The Particulars of which Proceedings may be ſeen in a *Dialogue* under the Title of *L'Eſtranges Caſe*, &c. which I cauſed to be Publiſh'd upon that occaſion. I ſhall now, as briefly as I can, ſet forth how the ſame Calumny comes to be ſtarted again.

On the *Third* of *January laſt paſt*, *The Loyall Proteſtant-News-Paper* had this following Paſſage in it concerning *Tong*, but miſtaking *Samuel*, for *Simſon*.

Whereas Mr. Samuel Tonge, *Son to Dr.* Tonge *deceaſed, has formerly Sworn, That his own Father was the Chief Contriver of the* Popiſh Plot; *Diſcovered by a Man who then went under the name of Dr.* O—; *Now the Religious good party, ſtemed at that*

time to be much dissatisfied, that an Intrigue so well layed, and so effectually managed, (tho never so ill Contrived,) should be thus miscarried, and then fell upon young Tonge, *and declared that he was an ill Man for offering to charge his Father with such horrid Crimes, after so many Men suffered upon the account of the said* Plot, *and though that it were but a Contrivance of his Father and Dr.* O— *(so call'd then) that it was an advancement to all* Protestant Dissenters *in* England, Ireland, *and* Scotland, *and used many moderate Reasons with the said* Tonge, *that at last Mr.* Tonge *Complyed with the Request and Prayer of the good party; and when he was sent for again to come before the King and Council, utterly Denying all that he had sworn before; but since being touched with Remorse of conscience, offers to justifie what he had Sworn unto by his own Testimony alone; but by such* Papers, *circumstances and witnesses, as he is now able to produce, without hopes of favour or Reward, but as a penitent Sinner, that expects mercy from God Almighty.*

Young *Tong* was so hot upon this Publication, that the very next day, he directed a Paper to Mr *Thompson* by way of an *Advertisement* under his own hand, in Confirmation of what was there publish'd: though it was not Notified by *Thompson* till *Jan.* 19. and in the words following.

Mr Thompson,

I have read your Intelligence of the Third of this Instant, and do acknowledge that all you write concerning Me is very True, and I will Justify it to my death; *and I do believe that the Great* Poverty *and* Misery *that I lye under, is fallen on me, by* the Just Judgment of God, *because I was Seduced by the Enticements of my* Uncle, *and* Others, *to deny the* Truth; *but you mistake my name; for I am not* Samuel *but*

Simson Tonge.

He speaks Truth as to his *Miserable Condition*; for there was not a Poorer Creature in the *Prison*; and *Cutting of Pegs for shoes*; (and working hard too) for *Three-half-pence a day, was the best part of his Entertainment.*

It was *Thompson's* Paper of *Jan.* 3. that gave the *Alarum*, and stir'd up the Charity of some of the *Well-affected Brethren* to

to hearken a little after him. He was taken one day out of the Prison (as he said) by a *Printer*, and at his Return talk'd of something to be Publish'd toward the Middle of the next Week concerning *L'Estrange*. This Visit put him presently into *Cloaths*, and *Money* in his Pocket, by a Providence, which must be left to *Time* and *Further Scrutiny* to *Un-riddle*.

Upon *Thomson's* First Publication of *Jan.* 3. Out comes the *Buffoon-Courant*, of *Jan.* 6. with these words in't. [*Has not this very* Young Tonge *set forth at large how he was at first trepann'd to suggest that Story against his Father, in a Book Printed by Mr C——in the* New Exchange; *but for I know not what Reasons stifled, and never suffer'd to be Publish'd? Has not this* Young Tonge *a hundred and a hundred times with tears in his Eyes, bewayl'd, and repented of that* Unnaturall *Villany? Nay but a fortnight ago, he Voluntarily declar'd that the* Sense thereof *lay so heavy upon him, that if ever he got out of Prison (where he was like to starve, and had scarce Cloaths to cover his Nakedness) he would forthwith Transport himself to the* West-Indies; *for his shame for that False and Wicked Accusation was so great, that he should not be able to walk in the streets. And is this Pittifull Fool Furbish'd up to make a* New Attacque? *But on the Contrary; What if this be only a Contrivance of the* Popish Traytors, *and their* Implement Nat? *What if herein he most impudently abuses, both* Old Tonge, *and* Young Tonge *and the* Publique? *Then no doubt his Majesties most Honourable Privy Councell, the Judges, and all Inferiour Magistrates, and every* Protestant English-man *will think it Necessary to Punish Exemplarily the Villain that in Print has Broach'd such a Horrid Scandall on the* Honour, Justice, Prudence *and* Safety *of the Nation.*] [Truly I do hope, and wish, with all my heart, that the Government *may*, and *will* proceed against all Cheats of this Kind, with the most Severity Imaginable: But how comes *Care* to know more of *Tonges* Doings then *Tong* does of his own? for Every syllable which *Thompson* says of *Tonge*, *Tonge* says of *himself*: And the Question is not here, whether it be *True*, or *False*, but whether or no *Tonge said* it.

The matter rested here till *Jan.* 19. Upon which day, came forth *Tong's Advertisement* in *Justification* of *Thomson*, and *Tong's Pretended Vindication*, in *Contradiction* to that *Advertisement*. 't was

was publish'd by *Curtis*; and the *Author* of it may be as well known by his *Paw*, as by his *Face*: The *Paquet*, and the *Vindication* bearing all together the same *Style*, and *Design*, and, in many Particulars, the very same *words*. So that the *Courantier*, the *Vindicator*, and *Simson Tonge are* all one and the same person. It carries the Title of [Mr Tongs Vindication, *in answer to the Malicious and Lying Aspersions thrown upon him by* Thomson, *and the* Observator.]

As to what concerns the *Observator* [*Being deeply Sensible* (says *Tong's Deputy-Vindicator*) *of what Evil Consequence this Notorious Lye may be; I do Solemnly declare that what was Printed by* Thomson, *was done without my* knowledge, *or* Consent, *having some time since given a True, and Full account of those Persons (that would have trepan'd, and Endeavor'd to make me Swear, that* my Father *and* Dr. Oates *were the Contrivers of the* Popish Plot) *in* my Case, *which was Printed by* Mr. C—— *in the* New Exchange *in the* Strand; *but by some Indirect means or other, was stifled, and never suffer'd to come abroad: In which* Narrative, *I have discover'd nothing but the Naked Truth, with the several Arguments and Inducements they made use of, to make me accuse my* deceased Parent, *and yet notwithstanding all this,* Thomson *and the* Observator *have the Impudence to affirm the Contrary*, &c.

Observe first, that the Printing of it [*without his Knowledge or Consent*] is no denial of the *thing said.*

2*ly*, Neither *Tonge*, nor *Care* or *Curtis*, in *His* name says One word in Opposition to the Truth of *Tong's Advertisement*, in Affirmation of what *Thomson* deliver'd.

3*ly*, Take notice, that the *Case* or *Narrative* which *Curtis's Libell* says, was Printed by *Mr* C—— and *Stifled*; was layd up in Lavender, for the Opportunity of Imposing an Abuse upon the *Oxford-Parliament*, as appears by the *Title-Page*, and the appointment for the Printing of it, bearing date, *Feb.* 2. 1681. And I am likewise Enform'd, that Several Copies of it were dispers'd to divers Members of that Convention.

4*ly*,

4*ly*. That *Pretended Narrative* and *Case* was *Printed* for *Langley Curtis*, with this Expreſs Authority for the Printing of it.

I do Appoint Langly Curtis, *to Print This my* Narrative, *and* Caſe: *Witneſs my hand, this* Second *of* February, 1681.

Simſon Tonge.

5*ly*. Beſide that, the *Narrative* is *Falſe*, and *Libellous*, it is Undoubtedly *the ſame hand* with the *Facquet*, and the *Vindication*; and *three Cheats* put upon the Publique, by *One and the ſame Perſon*.

6*ly*. It is remarkable, that there is a *New Title-Page* clapt upon the *Old Book*, (which is juſt now made Publique) Pretending to be *Printed for C. W.* inſtead of *Langly Curtis*; the better to Diſguiſe, or Conceal *Curtis* and *Cars Confederacy* and *Intereſt*, in the Pamphlet.

Laſtly, The very *Title-Page* it ſelf is a Juggle. As for Example, [*The* Narrative *and* Caſe *of* Simſon Tonge, Gent. *being a True Account deliver'd upon Oath, before* Mr. Juſtice Bridgeman, *in the preſence of* Dr. Titus Oates; *relating to* Capt. Sam. Ely, *Mr.* Choqueux, *&c. and my ſelf, Who would have Induced me to Swear that* my Father *and* Dr. Oates, *were the Contrivers of the* Horrid Popiſh Plot; *with* Other Material Paſſages Omitted in the Affidavit. *Together with ſome Short Reflections upon* Mr L Eſtrange's Dialogue *between* Zekiel, *and* Ephraim.]

Who knows how far *This* [*&c.*] and his [*OTHER Material Paſſages OMITTED in the* Affidavit] may Extend, Eſpecially from the Mouth of *Proſtitute Falſifyers*? and under the Manage of an *Ignoramus-Jury*? And it is a Fair Hint in *Janeways Hiſtory* of *Popiſh Sham-Plots* from the ſame hand again, P. 139. where he ſays, that [Simſon *made a Conſiderable Confeſſion of this Conſpiracy, upon Oath, before* Mr Juſtice Bridgeman, *though* HAPPILY *he hath reſerv'd many more particulars to another Opportunity.*] At which rate, 'tis but rubbing up his Memory at any time, to call to mind things that never had a Being, and to lay the Plot at whoſe Door he pleaſes. But to return to his Vindication.

[*Having*

[*Having now Sufficiently Vindicated my self* (says he) *from the Malicious*, and *Lying Aspersions cast upon me by* Thomson *and the* Observator; *I return to the* Pacquetier, (that is to say, *to himself again*, for there's not one word of the *Pacquetier* before) *who amongst them all is the only Person that has done me that Justice, Candidly to represent my Condition to the world, performing the part of an Honest man, in declaring the Great Sorrow wherewith my Spirits have been oppress'd for the* Unnaturall Villany *I was perswaded to perpetrate against my* Deceased Parent, &c.] And what is all this, but an Exchange of Civility betwixt *Harry* in the *Vindication*, & *Care* in the *Courant*?

[*I Bless God* (says he again) *I have not so sear'd a Conscience, as to Justify so False and Villanous a thing as is cast upon me.*——I did not verify or assert any thing by dreadfull Imprecations.——*It behoves me to stand upon my Guard, and by the force of Truth repell these Vicious Calumnies, which I hope is here perform'd to the Content and Satisfaction of all* True, Unbiass'd Protestants; *And now having fully* discharg'd a Good Conscience, *the main End of the Vindication, &c.*] To pass over now the most Daring and Blasphemous Hypocrisy that ever call'd upon Almighty God for the Grace of a *Mock-Repentance*, see how Dreadfully this *Personated Penitent* Concludes his Paper. [*I do solemnly protest* (says he) *in the presence of the Great* Jehova) *it is nothing but* Truth. *Witness my Hand*, Simson Tonge.] (Alias *Henry Care* had *Nick'd* it.)

I shall proceed now to *Janeways Popish Sham-Plots*, which is only *the same Jack-Pudding* still in *another dress*. [Choqueux (says he P. 138.) *brings* Mr. L'Estrange *into* Simson's *Chamber, where among other discourse*, Honest Roger *had these Words*: That he heard Mr. *Simson Tonge* was upon a very Good *Design for the Good of the Nation, to find out the Truth and Contrivance of this Plot, and pray'd he might have Good Success in it*, Adding, *he would give Mr.* Tonge *what Furtherance and Encouragement lay in his Power.*]

[He has another snap at me in the *Courant* of *Jan.* 27. where he says, *That Friend* Hodge, &c. *lately renew'd their Acquaintance with Mr.* Tonge, *and endeavour'd a fresh Intrigue of the Old Stamp; but finding upon recollection, that he would not Correspond further with them; and fearing all their Roguery would come out,* the Reverend Clergy-Guide *found himself oblig'd* to Cry *Whore first.*]

I am coming now to his *Narrative*; where in the *First Page* he has these words. [*Hearing that it is commonly reported, that I should Swear against my Father,* to take away his Life, *it is as False as God is True.*] This is no Denial of his *Swearing against his Father*; but of his Swearing against him *to take away his Life.* And he declares a little lower, That he was all along very tender of his Fathers Safety; with which *shuffle* he thinks to come off.

He tells a Story, *Page* 11. *Of my refusing to Licence a Book of his Fathers, called* The Royal Martyr, *unless I might Model it to my own Capricious Humour; and that his Father was much troubled at my sawcineſs, and sent for his Book again.* The Word *Sawcineſs* is an Expression that fits no bodies Mouth but *Carr*'s. But to his *Story* now.

A Book under that *Title* was brought to me to *Licence*; which upon the Perusal, I refused to do: and the Bookseller that brought it, gave me to understand who was the *Author* of it; and a Fair *Hint* in his very Countenance, what might come on't in case I would not Pass it. Upon This, for fear of *After-Claps*, I went to *Whitehall*, and discours'd the matter with Dr. *Tonge himself*, in words to this Effect. *Doctor* (said I) *You must Excuse me if I dare not Licence your Book; for there are Reflections in it upon the Court: Where you Say,* That the Bed-Chamber men Pick the King's Pockets; *and not without a Mixture of Reproaches upon the* King Himself. *Beside, that you are mistaken in your* Annals; There's matter of *Fact misplac'd, mis-tim'd,* and *misapply'd*; and from thence we proceeded to a Reasoning upon some Passages in his *Preface. Doctor* (said I) *'Tis well that both you your self, and Dr.* Oates (in those days a Dr.) *have so absolutely parted with your selves to the World, that there can be no longer any doubt of your Integrity; for otherwise, there are two or three Pas-*

ges in your Preface, *that people would go near to stumble at.* As to the Business of the *Bed-Chamber-men*, I'le Justifie it (*says the Doctor*) and if there be any *slips* in the *Story*, we can set them *Right*. But what's your Exception to the *Preface?* So I told him, that in Substance the Matter was thus: [*You tell the World, that you have, with Great Care, drawn up the History of the* Old Popish Plot (*the business of* Habernsfelt, &c.) *And that shewing it to Dr.* Oates, (*who very much approv'd of the Draught*) *you told him,* Titus, *It were worth the while to know if this* Plot *does not go on still. Go you, and put your self among the* Jesuits, *and enform your self whether it does, or no.* You say further, That Dr. *Oates* did go among them, pretending to be One of them; and that when he came back, he told you that the Business went on, and that it was no *New Plot*, but the *Old One continued.*] Well! (*says the Dr.*) All this is True, and where's the Offence? So I told him, that it might be look'd upon as a strange Councel, either to *Give* or to *Take*. The *Advice Given* is *This*, Go you over, *Titus*, and pretend to be a *Papist*: Take all their *Oathes* and *Tests*; joyn with them in an *Idolatrous Worship*, and swear your self to the *Devil* through Thick and Thin, only to see whether it be Cross or Pile. This seems to be the *Advice Given:* And the *following* of this *Advice*, upon *Fore-thought*, and *Consideration*, may be taken for a Resolution very Extraordinary. The Doctor's Answer was to this Purpose, *God Almighty will do his own Work, by his own Ways and Methods.*

I have been the more Punctual in this Relation, to shew as well the Reasons why I would not Licence that Book, in respect of my *self*, as the Tenderness I had for the Credit of the Doctor, and for the *Common Cause*; by not consenting to Expose any thing to the Publick, that might be liable either to a *Censure*, or a *Mistake*.

He says further in his *Narrative*, P. 1. [*That* L'Estrange *in his abusive Lying* Dialogue, *makes* Choqueux *to speak of* L'Estrange's *refusing to Licence* The Royal Martyr; *which* Tonge *took very ill at* L'Estrange's *hands*, —*but* Choqueux *knew nothing of it.*] The Truth of these Things shall be made appear in their Proper Place.

And

And again in the same Page. [Mr. *Choqueux* (saies he) *recommended me to* L'Estrange, *as a Person very worthy of my acquaintance, and told him I had drawn up several Papers, as Objections against the Plot; and he did presume, I should be very glad of his Assistance therein.* L'Estrange *told me he would to his power assist me what he could, and asked me where my Papers were, for he would gladly peruse them: for he was informed, those Papers had very material things in them against the Plot. That he was a great admirer of all such things, as he did not question he had demonstrated to the World by his Collections he had made concerning the* Popish Plot, *where Dr.* Oates *was pleased to be silent, and said that for his part, he found the whole Plot was replenish'd with nothing else, but Improbabilities, and Ridiculous Absurdities,* &c. *And then* Choqueux, *and* L'Estrange *discours'd concerning the late Wars,* &c. Ibid.]

Take notice, that *Tonge* had drawn up some Objections against the Plot; and *L'Estrange* desired a *sight* of 'em, and yet no Papers shew'd him, nor any Answer return'd him to that Question; but thereupon he went his way. Now see forward [*Going out with L'Estrange* (sayes the Narrative, Pag. 12.) *I ask'd him when I should wait upon him, and if he had any writing, I would transcribe any thing for him which* he had to Print, *but he said he had no such business, but that any Evening he should be glad to see me, and Mr.* Choqueux *at his House in* Holborn, *and went away from us.*

Here's *Tonge* pinning himself upon *L'Estrange*, and *L'Estrange* shuffling him off, as far as decently could be done in such a Case. But see now how *Tonge* plies him yet with *Importunities.*

[*The next day* after (sayes he *Ibid.*) Mr. *Choqueux went to* L'Estrange's *House, and told me he was newly gone out, but he said to morrow in the Evening I should go along with him to* L'Estrange.]

You will see by and by that I went out of the way on purpose to avoid him; and that *Tonge* wrote me a Letter next Morning, desiring me in regard that he miss'd me last night, to appoint him some other time, for *he had something to say to me*, whereupon I appointed him at seven that Evening. And see how he proceeds. [*Crawley* (sayes he Ibid.) *coming*

to the Savoy *before me* (Choqueux *and* Tonge) *were gone, went along with us, whom I suppose* L'Estrange *had no acquaintance with. But* Crawley *went, thinking he might have something to say to him in relation to his Papers. So soon as we came into the Room where* L'Estrange *was, he desired Mr.* Choqueux *and* Crawley, *to withdraw; (for he said it look'd too much like a Consultation) who went out and expected my coming out into the street.*]

It is false, that *Choqueux* and *Crawley* were desir'd to with draw; but Mr. *Crawley*, and a *fourth person* that came with them in Company, were fairly hinted to withdraw, because (as I said) *it would look like a consult.* And they did withdraw; but *Choqueux* stay'd a while after them.

[*Then being together* (sayes the Narrative, Ibid.) *meaning* Tonge *and* L'Estrange) *he asked me whether I had a Copy of that Information which was delivered to the King, I told him I had not, only some loose Papers relating to it; but I could recite several Material Passages of it. Then* L'Estrange *writ them down, and asked me whether I had no more to say, I told him I had not, and said when he had more leisure, and had all my Informations, he would swear me to them. I told him, I did not care to be sworn to any of my Papers,* &c.] This point shall be clear'd hereafter, where it will fall more naturally in my way.

I shall not need to amplify upon the Particulars abovementioned any further in this place, then to recommend it to the Reader's Observation. First, that the *Persons Visibly concern'd in these Scandalous Libells, are only Tonge,* (as a Fool for the Faction to make use of) *Curtis,* (the Publisher of the *Narrative*, the *Packet*, and the *Vindication*) *Janeway,* (the Publisher of the *Popish Sham-plots*) and *Care,* the *Presumptive Author* of these four Pamphlets: of whose *Character* and *Credit*, the World is sufficiently sensible already, without need of any further Information.

Now though as it is the Common business of these Fellows to Bespatter the Government, and all degrees of Men, as well as Particular Persons, that Interpose toward the Vindication of the King and the Laws. Their spleen and Forgeries are yet so Peculiarly bent at me, that I dare be answerable to produce at least *three hundred* Scandalous, Rank and

Notorious *Lyes*, that theſe ſervile wretches, (taking in *Baldwin* for another) have publiſhed barefac'd againſt my ſingle ſelf; and I do verily believe, I may ſafely ſay, as many ſeveral Libels: But having already made an Expreſs Application to the Magiſtracy of the City, for *Juſtice*, *Publick*, and *Private* upon the Infamous Authors of theſe Defamatory Papers: I make no queſtion, but the Generous, and Loyall Governours of this City, having both the *Crimes* and the *Criminals* openly lay'd *before them*, and the matter, in both reſpects falling expreſly under their Cognizance and Juriſdiction; I make no doubt, I ſay, but my Lord Mayor and the Court of Aldermen will exert their Authority to the uttermoſt, in calling theſe Flagitious Incendiaries to a ſtrict account. So that I ſhall now paſs forward to my main buſineſs.

That is to ſay, *Firſt*, To ſhew that there is a *Conſpiracy*, by Hook or by Crook, to make *me* a *Suborner*.

Secondly, To *Diſcharge* my ſelf of that *Impudent*, and *Senſeleſs Calumny*, by *Clear* and *Undeniable Proofs*, *Inferences*, and *Preſumptions* to the *contrary*.

Thirdly, To make it out, beyond all diſpute, that the Project has been, from Firſt to Laſt, to *Trepan me*, by trying how far I might be prevail'd upon to entertain any Propoſitions of *diſcrediting*, *ſhamming*, or *Ridiculing* the *damnable Helliſh Popiſh Plot*; which has been *Atteſted*, and *Confirm'd*, by the *Authority* and *Declaration* of ſo many Parliaments.

There needs no more for the making out of the *Firſt Point*, than what is ſaid already; which for Order ſake, I ſhall briefly ſum up yet once again: *Care* in his *Courant* of the 27*th* of *Jan.* 1681, Charges me with *Renewing my Acquaintance with Mr.* Tonge, *and endeavouring a* Freſh Intrigue *of the* Old Stamp. *Care* again in *Tonge's Pretended Narrative*, has hook'd me into the [*&c.*] in the *Title Page*, *and his other material Paſſages Omitted in the* Affidavit, [&c.]—by drawing my Name into the Book, within the compaſs of that, [*&c.*] and the *Supplemental Reſerve*. The ſame *Care* again, in *Janeway's Sham Plots*, gives an account Pag. 139. *That over and above* Tonge's *Oath to Mr. Juſtice* Bridgeman, *he hath reſerv'd many more Particulars to another Opportunity*; which

which gives him Liberty till the Day of Judgment, to supply his Evidence. It is a farther Presumption of a *Design*; *First*, the Calculating of their *Narrative*, for the *Oxford Parliament*, to take me Unprovided, and by Surprize. *Secondly*, By the keeping it so Close ever since, for fear of having the Villany of it Detected, and Expos'd; And then the *Publishing* of it now at last, under a *False Name*, is a further Confirmation of the Foulness of that *Practice*.

It might suffice to the *Second Point*, that I was Honourably Dischargʼd by the *King* and *Council*; *Oates* and *Tonge* being present, and not having One word to say in Contradiction to my Defence: But it is not a likely matter, over and above, that I should have a Design upon *Tonge*, and at the same time shake him off from fastening himself upon me. That I should enter into that Liberty of Discourse: of *Censuring* the *Plot*, *Drawing him* in to raise Objections against it, and to represent it as the *Invention* of his *Father*, and *Oates*; and yet at the same time, Caution both Captain *Ely*, and Mr. *Choqueux*, to have a Care of him, for he would lay hold of any thing to Ruine them. Is it not a likely matter again, that I should *ask* him for his *Papers*, and he should give me no Answer; and that I should so Greedily Interest my self in a *Zeal* and *Curiosity* to be dabbling with him, and yet at the same time, *refuse any Information from him, but under his own hand:* And with this Condition Annex'd, *That he should declare it to be his own Voluntary Act, and neither Directly, or Indirectly drawn from him at my Instance, or Procurement?* Now all This will be laid as open as the Day in That which follows.

It will be Objected perhaps, that though this Plea may serve well enough for what's *past*, or at least for what has been produc'd against me upon Legal Testimony: But what if he should come upon second Thoughts, (as other People have done) to refresh his *Memory*, and Re-inforce his *Evidence*, or Charge me (as *Carr* calls it) with [*a Fresh Intrigue of the Old Stamp*] *till I found* (as the *Pacquetier* has it) *that* Tonge *would Correspond no further with me?* I would ask no more for my Acquittal, then that *Curtis* might be strictly Examin'd, *who* was the *Author* of *those Three Insolent Impostures*; The *Pacquet*; *Tonge's*

Tonge's Vindication, and *Tonge's Narrative and Case*; which were All *Publish'd* by *him*; and that *Janeway* might be Interrogated; *Who* was the *Author* of his *Popish Sham-Plots*; not but that any Man may know whence they all came, they are so like the *Father*. I would ask this, for the *Publiques* sake, as well as my *Own*; for 'tis Impossible for any *State* to Live at *Peace*, or any *Community* or *Person* to scape *Untainted*, where These *Pests* of *Humane Society* are suffer'd in a *Common-Wealth*.

I shall say nothing now to the *Many*, *Gross*, *Virulent*, and Scandalous Falshoods that are scatter'd Up and Down these Venemous Papers; but refer the Reader to what I have to say upon the *Third Head*, wherein I shall set forth the Naked Truth of the Matter; and make it Evident, that the *Shamming* and *Tampering* has been on the *other side*; and that instead of *my Wheedling* of *Tonge* into a *Complication* against his *Father*; it has been the Business of *Young Tonge*, *his Fellows*, and *Directors*, from One End to the other of this affair, to draw *L'Estrange* into the *Toil*. This is the Third and the Last Point, and I shall Handle it at large.

The Design of *Tonge*'s putting a *Sham* upon me (by the Order and Instruction, I suppose, of his Superiors) must bear Date a good while before I ever so much as saw the Face of him; As appears by his Propounding *me* (though an Absolute *Stranger* to him) as a fit Person for him to Advise withal, about the Menage, and Government of his Design: and making twenty sleeveless Pretences for getting into my Acquaintance; besides the Visible Importunities of Pressing upon *me*, after I knew him, and the Use he made of the most Frivolous Accidents, to improve all Circumstances to my Disadvantage. And then the whole Story is Fare'd with *Lyes*, from one end to the other; as the Reader will Observe upon comparing the several parts of this Relation.

The first time that ever he saw me, (as himself confesses) or that I ever saw him, was at *Monsieur Choquetux*'s, by the occasion of my going thither to Enquire about some Memorials of the late War. This was some Months after his Impious

pious *Swearing*, and *Counter-Swearing*, *Backward* and *Forward*, at *Windsor*; so that there could be no pretence for my tampering of him in a matter, where he had so *Perjuriously Contradicted himself* already; Neither did *Choqueux* bring me to him, (as he suggests) but the Servant, upon my Enquiry for her Master, desir'd me to Walk into a low Room till she call'd him down; and there I found a Person to me unknown, which, it seems, was *Young Tonge*, as I was afterwards Enform'd by the Master of the Lodgings when he came down. I found the Fopp to be Talkative, and so I let him run on in a Nonsensical Story of the Privacies that had pass'd betwixt *Oates*, and his *Father*, certain *Papers* concerning the *Plot* that were Written in *Greek Characters*, and hid behind the *Wainscout*; and a Foolery of one *Green*, a *Weaver*, that meeting his Father in the *Court of Requests*, told him for News (and without any knowledge of him too) that *E're long, there would be a Popish Massacre*: Whereupon, (says *Young Tonge*) my Father made an acquaintance with him, and out came the *Plot*. He shew'd me likewise an Abuse upon some of the *King's Evidence*, in a kind of a Disguise like a *Romance*, which he said was of his own Composing, and I found he had a mind to Unriddle it to me; but I stopp'd him short; Adviz'd him against it; and made what haste Civilly I could, to get quit of his Company, and to deliver my self from the *Nauseousness*, as well as the *Danger* of so *Impertinent*, and *Suspitious* an *Acquaintance*. This was before I had ever seen the Eyes of *Capt. Ely*; but coming soon after to the knowledge of him, it was my Lesson both to *him*, and Mr. *Choqueux*, to have a Care of that Young Fellow for fear of having a Trick put upon them: So far was I from making *that Fool* my *Confident*, that I did not think it safe to have any thing at all to do with him; The *Incredibility* of his *Evidence* being the best *Security* that any Man can have that keeps him *Company*.

Soon after This, Capt. *Ely* returns from *Windsor*, (where he had been it seems upon *Tonge*'s Errand) and my having some Inkling of his Business there, made me a little curious to find him out, and learn from him the Truth of the Matter. Presently upon This there, was Bruited a Report about the Town, that *Oates* had Exhibited a Complaint to

the

the Council against *Ely* and *Choqueux*, and that *L'Estrange* was brought in for a *Third Man*. This Alarm'd me to think my self, and to provide for the worst that Malice and Perjury could pretend against me. For I could easily see thorough *Tonge*; and *Oates* had already pronounc'd me, in all his *Haunts* and *Gangs*, as deep in the Practice, as the most *Confident* and *Shameless Asseveration* of any thing, short of a *Verum Sacerdotis* could make me.

Hereupon I apply'd my Self to Captain *Ely*, and *Monsieur Choqueux*, (being both Clear of the Council) to make Oath before some Master of the *Chancery* to the Truth of certain Particulars, wherein I might pollibly come to be Concern'd, if there should happen to be any Combination carryed on against me. They did me the Right to Comply with my Desire, and the *Affidavits* are as follows.

The Affidavit *of* Samuel Ely, *&c.*

'*Samuel Ely* of the Parish of St. *Martins* in the '*Fields*, in the County of *Middlesex*, Gent. ma-'keth Oath, that he This Deponent hath not known 'the Person of *Roger L'Estrange* in the County of *Mid-'dlesex*, Esqs till about a fortnight before the Date 'hereof: And that He this Deponent never saw the 'said *L'Estrange* and Mr. *Simpson Tonge* together, nor 'ever heard of any Correspondence between them, 'more then that Mr. *Choqueux* told this Deponent that 'he had brought the said *Tonge* to Mr. *L'Estrange* to 'desire him to take *Tonge's* Information upon Oath, 'as a thing that might much justifie Us; This being 'before we heard of any Order to attend the Coun-'cel.

'This Deponent further Enformeth, that the said '*Tonge* made mention of Mr. *L'Estrange* in a certain Pa-'per about the latter end of *July* last, (to this Depo-'nents best Remembrance) as a person that might be

'a very good Evidence against his Father, for some se-
'ditious Passages in a Book of Dr. *Tonge*'s, called, *The*
'*Royal Martyr*; which the said Mr. *L'Estrange* refused
'to *License*, and D. *Tonge* took it very ill at his hands;
'*Tonge* the younger declaring, that he had a great mind
'to be acquainted with the said Mr. *L'Estrange*.

'This Deponent moreover saith, That being at
'*Windsor* about the middle of *August* last, He this De-
'ponent was told, That young *Tonge* had denyed the
'Information given in by him to his Majesty, and de-
'clared, that he was set on by the Papists; whereupon
'this Deponent went immediately to young *Tonge*, be-
'ing then in *Windsor*, and told him what he had heard.
'Who there in the presence of Two other persons, did
'presently take Pen, Ink, and Paper, and drew up a
'short Declaration to this following Effect.

'Being informed that my Uncle, Captain *Tonge*, hath
'maliciously aspers'd me, that I have made a Recanta-
'tion, and disown'd my former Information given in
'to his Majesty; *As I hope to be saved*, I never did make
'any such Recantation, though I was mightily urg'd
'thereunto by my Uncle, and to lay it upon the Pa-
'pists. But the Information was all true, and in the
'Discharge of my Duty and Conscience; And that
'it was my own spontaneous Act, without the Ex-
'pectation of any Advantage, Benefit, or Reward; or
'by the Procurement, Direction or Abetting of any
'Person whatsoever.

'This Declaration being by him the said *Symson*
'*Tonge* Written in the presence of two other Persons,
'and this Deponent, of his own proper motion, and
'without any advice thereunto; and it was likewise
'attested by this Deponent and the two Persons above-
'mentioned. And all this was done in the space of

'one

'ode half hour, (as this Deponent verily believes) 'from the time after this Deponent's first hearing the 'Report.

'And finally, This Deponent saith further, That he 'heard Mr. *L'Estrange* (being in Discourse with Mr. '*Choqueux*) caution the said Mr. *Choqueux* to have a 'care what he said to that Fellow (meaning Young '*Tonge*) for he would lay hold of any thing to ruine 'you. This was the effect of Mr. *L'Estrange*'s Caveat 'to Mr. *Choqueux*, who returned this Answer, *That he 'had nothing to do with him in the World, but in relation 'to his Cure*; and this Deponent heard Mr. *L'Estrange* 'say further at the same time. *Remember Mr.* Choque-'ux, *what I told young* Tonge *and* You *together*; I do 'declare, I will not *Receive* any Enformation from '*Tonge*, but under his own hand; and I will have a 'Clause in it too, wherein he shall acquit me upon the 'same Oath, of having any thing to do with him by 'way of *Advice* or *Encouragement*; That I did not di-'rectly or indirectly move him to it, but that it was all 'at his own Motion, and at his own Request: And more 'this Deponent hath not to say.

Jurat. coram me, 4 die *Octobris*
Anno xxxii. *Car. II. R.* An.
Dom. 1680.

JO. GOELL. SAM. ELY.

Upon the perusal of This *Affidavit*, the Reader will be able to satisfie himself what *Tonge*'s Denyals of any *Imprecations*; His *Invocating the Great Jehovah to the Truth of what he said*; His *Prophane manner* of Obtruding upon *Almighty God*; His *Mimical Forms of Conviction* and *Remorse*, for the *Ardent Affections* of a *True Repentance*; *The Oppression of his Spirits for his Villany against his Father*: What all this (I say)

amounts to upon the Comparing of the *Gross*, and *Scandalous Contradictions*: And yet the *Testimony* of This *Profligate Wretch* is made use of by the Managers of this Infamous Cause, as an *Authority* sufficient to Oblige the World into a Belief of any thing against *L'Estrange*; just according to the Measures of their Proceedings in other Cases, where the *Credit* of the *Witnesses*, is rated by the *Malice*, and *Interest* of the *Faction*; and *None*, either so *Fair*, or so *Foul*, as not to be *Blasted* or *Justifi'd*, in order to the Common End of serving a *Party*. I shall go forward now to the *Second Affidavit*.

Anthony Choqueux *of the* Savoy, *Chyrurgeon*, *this* 4th *Day of* Octob. 1680. *maketh Oath, as follows*, Viz. Impr.

'I. THat about the Beginning of *Septemb.* last, Mr. '*Tho. Newcomb* brought Mr. *L'Estrange* to 'his House to enquire about some Memorials of Prince '*Rupert*'s Actions in the late War, and in *Flanders*: 'but because it was somewhat late, they drank a Bot'tle of Wine, and put off farther discourse upon that Business to another Meeting.

'II. That some few days after this, Mr. *L'Estrange* 'came to his House a second time; and after some dis'course with him, the Deponent, before Mr. *Tonge*, '(whom he had then under Cure) about the Memori'als, and Papers concerning the Prince, he told him 'that the Person there present was young Mr. *Tonge*; 'whereupon Mr. *L'Estrange* took notice of him, and 'ask'd him if he had ever seen him at his Father's 'Chamber, who answered no, he had never seen him 'before, or words to the same effect.

'III. That

'III. That at the same time, Mr. *Tonge* said he remembred that he had been told, Mr. *L'Estrange* refused to License a Book of his Fathers, (called the *Royal Martyr*) which Refusal, Dr. *Tonge* took very ill, he said. And so he went on in several Discourses of divers Meetings betwixt his Father and Dr. *Oates*, and how many Clerks his Father kept constantly a Writing; and such kind of Talk; Mr. *L'Estrange* onely giving him the Hearing, without any encouragement, or asking him any questions, but slightly telling him that all this signifi'd nothing; or to that purpose.

'IV. That finding Mr. *L'Estrange* to wave the Discourse, he whisper'd the Deponent in the Ear, to desire him to acquaint Mr. *L'Estrange*, that if he had any thing to Transcribe, he was ready to do it for him, and should take it for a great kindness. After this; That there pass'd nothing but common Talk: Onely, at parting, that Mr. *Tonge* desired of Mr. *L'Estrange* that he might wait upon him at his House, setting the day and hour himself, to which Mr. *L'Estrange* seemed to agree.

'V. That at the time appointed, *Tonge* went, (as he afterward told this Deponent) but Mr. *L'Estrange* was not at home; so that he sent him a Letter next morning, desiring him to appoint some other time; which Letter this Deponent saw, and likewise Mr. *L'Estrange*'s Answer to it, which he convey'd to Mr. *Tonge*. Before the writing of the said Letter, Mr. *L'Estrange* said (by way of caution) unto this Deponent, *A Man had need have a care what he says to such Fellows, for they'l lay hold of any thing*; or to the same purpose. That the substance of the Answer (to the Deponent's best memory) was this, That if Mr. *Tonge* had any thing to lay

'to

'to him, he ſhould be within at Seaven in the Even-
'ing.

'VI. That at ſeven in the Evening, (or there abouts)
'upon the earneſt deſire of Mr. *Tonge*, This Deponent
'went into *Holbourn* with him to Mr. *L'Eſtrange*'s; and
'told him how great a deſire Mr. *Tonge* had expreſt to
'be better acquainted with him; and how ready he
'was to ſerve him, in Tranſcribing any thing for him:
'to whom Mr. *L'Eſtrange* anſwer'd, that he ſhould be
'glad (upon occaſion) to do him a kindneſs.

'VII. That hereupon, this Deponent told Mr. *L'E-*
'*ſtrange* (upon Mr. *Tonge*'s deſiring it) that Mr. *Tonge*
'offer'd to inform him of what he had delivered to the
'King; and that Mr. *L'Eſtrange* reply'd, If he has any
'thing material to preſent to me, as a Juſtice of Peace,
'for the King's Service, I'le give him his Oath and
'receive it; upon condition that he declare it to be his
'own Act, without any motive to it from my ſelf; o-
'therwiſe I will not meddle in it; or Words to the
'ſame import: And that Mr. *Tonge* ſaid this was rea-
'ſonable, but that he had not ſuch an Information rea-
'dy drawn: That ſo this Deponent went away to a
'place hard by, and about a quarter of an hour after,
'returning that way, ſaw Mr. *Tonge* come out of Mr.
'*L'Eſtrange*'s Houſe with two or three little Printed
'Books in his hand, which he ſaid Mr. *L'Eſtrange* had
'given him.

'VIII. And Laſtly, That after this the Deponent
'heard *Tonge* ſpeak no more of Mr. *L'Eſtrange*, or of
'any Papers given unto him.

Jur' 4. die *Octob.* 1680.
coram me Magiſt.
Cancel'

A. Choqueux.

Adam Ottley.

Here's

Here's the *Occasion* set down in the *First Paragraph* that brought me first to the *Savoy*, where I did not so much as see *Tonge*, that night, though the *Libellers* would have it thought, that my *Design* upon *Tonge* was the *Thing Expressly* that carryed me thither.

It may be noted upon the fifth *Clause*, That *Tonge* came to *my House* at the *time appointed*, (according to the Tenor of the foregoing) and afterward *told Choqueux that I was not at home*: So that it is plain, that *he* press'd upon *me*, and I avoided *him*; beside that his *Secretary* Reports it, as if Mr. *Choqueux* had only *told him* so, and he had not been there *himself*. Neither does he take any notice at all of his soliciting me by *Letter* to set him a *Time of Meeting*, or of my *Answer* in return to that *Letter*. And it appears also in the next *Paragraph*, that *Monsieur Choqueux* did not bring *Tonge* to *me*, but *upon the Earnest desire of Tonge, Monsieur Choqueux coming along with him.*

Upon the whole matter here's more then enough said to this point, and to prove that it was thus far an *Intrigue* carryed on in a direct Train for the Inveighling of me into a snare. I shall now proceed to the laying open of a *Continuation*, or rather a *Repetition* of the *same Project*, under the *Countenance*, and *Assistance* of the *same Profligate Agents*. I shall here Publish the whole truth of the matter, in hope that the *Government* will proceed for the *securing* of *honest men*, in their *Lives* and *Reputations*, against a Band of *Sanguinary Libellers*, and *Prostitute Knights of the Post*; and not suffer the *Popish Plot* to be *Shamm'd*, and *Expos'd* to the Highest degree of *Contempt* and *Discredit imaginable*, only in the Contemplation of drawing in some *Conscientious Protestant* or other, that has a true Veneration for the *King*, and the *Church*, barely to the *hearing* of the *Story*; for that's sufficient to the Case here in question. The *First Contriver*, and *Promoter* of the Villany, brings himself off by setting up for the *Informer*.

In the *First* business of *Tonge*, I kept my self upon such a *Guard*, as in *Honesty* and *Prudence*, I thought my self oblig'd to do, and it was well I did so, for a much wiser man then my self might have ventur'd further, perhaps, then in that Case I thought it convenient to do. I do not speak as to the entring

catering into any *Unlawfull Act*, or *Consultation*; but to the keeping of my self clear from any Reasonable Ground for the least *Jealousie*, or *Suspicion*. And yet all this Pre-caution notwithstanding; how did the *Weekly News-papers* Publish me over the *Three Kingdoms* for *the Greatest Villain in Nature!* For a matter of six weeks or two months together, without either *Truth* or *Controll*; and no more in the whole matter, than the *Impudence* of Two or Three *Mercenary Rascals* to raise all this *Scandall* and *Clamour*. This experience taught me so much wit, (though to my cost) as for the future, never to have any thing to do with this sort of Catell again, but upon Terms of stricter *Reserve*; so that I took up a Resolution; if ever any further attempt of the same kind should be made upon me, I would fairly endeavour to spoil the jest, and set the Saddle upon the Right Horse. And this is my present Case, wherein I shall Govern my self by the *Rules of a Good Christian*, a *Good Subject*, and an *Honest Man*.

There was a Whisper about a Quarter of a Year ago, of *Tonge's* being touch'd in *Conscience* for a *False Oath*, about the business of his *Father*, and the late Dr. *Owes*. This coming to my Ear, and a Paper of his to my hand, with strange Circumstances in it, I sent him a Letter by my servant, which I thought might very well become me in several Respects: and especially for so much as the matter of it did particularly relate to my self. The Copy of it follows.

For Mr. *Simson Tonge*, &c.

SIR,

YOu will wonder at this Letter, perhaps, from a Person that has neither Directly nor Indirectly had any thing to do with you, either by Word, Writting, or Message, since October *last was Twelvemonth, when, upon your Information, I was question'd, and wrongfully accus'd in many particulars before the King and Councell.*

I

I look upon it as my duty, to forgive ye; *and at this* Good time, *to tell ye so; and I have the Charity to believe, if it had come into your thought, you would have found it your part to have desired it. I know very well, that* Oates *and* College *had the handling of ye before you gave your Evidence; and I have reason to believe it should not have stop'd there if they might have had their Will. But however, I had kept myself upon such a Guard, and so Clear, that I was acquitted without the least doubt of my Innocence. I ask ye no Questions, nor do I desire any thing from ye; though I should be glad to find any Instance of your* Conversion, *and that the Truth of the whole matter might appear. I do wish you (in fine) such a sense of what you owe both to God and Man, as may lead ye to a Just, and a Conscientious Discharge of your Duty. After all, I am*

December 27. 1681. *Your Loving Friend,*

R. L'Estrange.

I thought I could not do less in *Honour* and *Religion*, (especially upon this *Festival Occasion*) than to mind him of *His Duty* by the Discharge of *my Own*; but my Charity was not so well Requited, it seems, as it deserv'd: for instead of keeping himself to the *Subject* of the *Wrong he had done me*, he presently fell to his Old Play again, of throwing out Baits upon the Question of the *Plot*, to try if he could get any better hold of me This Bout than he did the last. Upon *December* 30. I received a Letter from him, in acknowledgment of mine of the 27th, in the *Terms* and *Date* following. Directed, *For his Ever Honoured Friend*, ROGER L'ESTRANGE, *&c.*

Ever Honoured SIR,

I *Humbly thank you for your* Charity, *in Forgiving the* Wrong *I did you*, *in* October was Twelve Month; *And I assure you, it hath been a Great trouble to me; and if I could have hoped for Pardon, I should have begg'd it of you long since; but I am Confident, if you had known how I was used by my* Uncle *first, and afterward by* College *and* Oates, *to* force me to Accuse you Falsly, *you would sooner have Pitied my weakness, and forgiven me what I have done against you: But this Generous Charity which you have now shewed, in giving me that Pardon, which I durst not ask for, hath encouraged me to Entreat you to Intercede with His* Majesty, *to Grant me His* Gracious Pardon, *for the* Great Offences *which I have Committed against him: And that he would be pleased to let me be brought to my* Tryal, *and have the Perusal of my Father's Papers, to help to make my Defence. And I hope to make out the Truth, to the satisfaction of all Honest Men, and Discharge the Conscience of,*

Kings Bench, the Common-side, Dec. 28. 1681.

Honoured Sir,

Your veriest commandable Servant,

Simon Tonge.

This Letter came accompanied with the Draught of a *Petition*; and *Both in his own hand.* There needed no Great Sagacity to Chop Right upon This Train, being the very Trick over again, that he had ſo lately ſerv'd me before: ſo that I was e'en reſolv'd to look to my ſelf, and to let Nature work; Clapping this *Endorſement* immediately upon the *Letter* for a *Memorial.*

The Endorſement.

The Letter whereupon this is Endorſed, was delivered to the Perſon, who hath hereunder ſubſcribed the Two Firſt Letters of her Name. It was delivered to her Yeſterday being the 29*th* of *December*, 1681. with an acknowledgment that he had done the Perſon to whom it is Directed, a great deal of Wrong; That he was ſorry for it, and would have acknowledg'd it ſooner had he had Opportunity: But that he was put on by his *Uncle*, and *Others*, to do what he did; and deſir'd the Bearer hereof to deliver the Letter, together with the Contents above written. All which he did of his own accord. *Decem.* 30. 1681.

In the Preſence of, &c.

The *Petition* that came in company with this *Letter*, is Word for Word as follows. Thoſe Names only Excepted, that are Inſeparable from the Matter in Queſtion. For my Buſineſs is only to Expoſe the Falſhood of this miſerable Wretch, without Involving others in the Conſequences of his Calumnies.

To His Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Petition of Simson Tonge *Prisoner in the* King's Bench.

Sheweth,

THat after your Petitioner had Declared the Truth to your Majesty, concerning the Contrivance of his Father, and Mr. *Titus Oates*; Your Petitioner being in great Want of Necessaries, his *Uncle Captain Tonge* having sent for him, was compelled to go to him for *Relief*, and *Captain Tonge* made your *Petitioner Drunk*, and then threatned and forced him to deny the *Truth*, and to Sign a *Paper* which the said *Captain Tonge* had written, your *Petitioner* not knowing what he did; and afterwards when your *Petitioner* was committed to *Newgate*, *College* came to him, and by Threats and Promises, forced your *Petitioner* to deny the *Truth*; for the which your *Petitioner* hath been ever since under great trouble of Mind, for his great Wickedness and Cowardize to deny the *Truth*. But your *Petitioner* doth *Protest*, in the *Presence of Almighty God*; that it is very true, that the *Plot* was Contrived by my Father, and *Titus Oates*, when he returned the second time beyond the Seas: my Father and he writ much of it out of [*Housolise*] Queen *Elizabeth*, (*That Word* Houselise *I could not make out.*) and out of the Book writ by *Hooper* or *Hocker* that came from *Rome*, and swore against *Campian*, and the other *Jesuites*; as will appear both by the said Books, and by my Father's *Papers*' If your *Majesty* please to cause them to be searched into: They first *Writ* at ——

where

where the *Plot* was *Written* by *Oates* in *Greek Letters*; and afterwards went to *Fox-Hall*, and one of the *Jesuites Letters* is in my Father's Hand.

Wherefore your Petitioner doth most Humbly Pray and beseech Your Sacred Majesty, *to Pity the sad Condition of Your Petitioner, and to Pardon his Great Crime of going from the* Truth: *And to let him be brought to his* Tryal, *and to have his Father's* Papers *deliver'd to him, to make his* Defence: *And Your Petitioner hopes to make what he hath Written, so Clear; that Your* Majesty *will think Him more fit for Your Pity, than Your Anger: And forgive the Great Wickedness of Your Petitioner, for the which he is truly Penitent; and will rather perish here in Prison, than ever be Guilty of the like: As he hath shewed to those that have been with him, since his Great Poverty, to pervert Him farther from the* Truth; *but Your Petitioner would not: Therefore Your Petitioner doth most Humbly Beseech Your* Majesty, *to Pity the sad and miserable Condition of Your Petitioner, and not to let him lie here and starve for want of Cloth and Bread.*

And Your *Petitioner* [as in Duty bound] shall ever pray, *&c.*

Simson Tonge.

This

This *Petition* made it as Clear as the Day, that he was Entring anew upon the Old Haunt; and that he lay upon the Catch for an Opportunity to do me a Good Turn: So I thought it but reasonable to keep my self out of his Reach, and return'd him for Answer this Following Letter; Addressed, For Mr. *Simson Tonge*, &c.

Mr. Tonge,

YOurs of the 28*th Instant*, came Yesterday to my hand, with the Draught of a *Penitent Petition*, which you desire may be presented to *His Majesty*. You must be more Particular and Clear, before I presume to undertake the Office. As for Instance.

1. *You say that you were prest by your* Uncle *first, and afterward by* College *and* Oates, *to Accuse me falsly.*

But you say nothing what they would have had you to Accuse me of, more than you did: What means they us'd to bring you to't; whether there was any Money, or Reward, either given or promised: By whom? What? or how much? How? or in what manner this was done? (*If any thing of this kind*) Or if any man can prove This besides your self?

2. *That Captain* Tonge *made you* Drunk; *and sign a Paper of his writing, when you knew not what you did.*

But you do not say, either where; what Liquor; what quantity; at what time; who saw you together; or afterwards saw you Drunk.

3. *That the Captain sent for you; And that you were Compelled by your Necessities to go to him for Relief.*

But you do not say how often he sent for you: by whom: to what place, or places: whether by word of mouth, or by Letter: Or if upon your going,

ing, when ſent for, he made you Drunk at the ſame time: who can prove his ſending for you: nor what Relief you had from him; either in Money, or otherwiſe: Or what Promiſes: what Conditions: or what Diſcourſes toward, or concerning all this, paſſed betwixt you.

4. *You ſay, that your* Uncle *threatned, and forc'd you to deny the* Truth.

But you do not ſay, what thoſe Menaces were: what Truth you were to deny: what Arguments, or Diſcourſes he made uſe of to prevail upon you: or if any Conditions were offer'd ye, in caſe of your Compliance.

5. *You ſay, that* College *came to ye in* Newgate. *and* Threaten'd *and* Forc'd *you alſo to deny the* Truth,

But you ſay nothing to the *Queries* upon *Num.* 1.

6. *You ſay the* Plot *was Contrived by your* Father, *and* Oates, *upon* Oate's ſecond Return from beyond the Seas: *and name ſome Books* (the Names of them you cannot make out) *upon the Subject of* Queen Eliz. *Out of which they have a good part of the* Contrivance; *and* refer *to thoſe Books for the Agreement of the* Matter.

But you do not ſpeak to *Particulars*; what that *Contrivance* was; how managed; who privy, or aſſiſtant to it: Or what Diſcourſes paſt upon it. So that here's no matter of *Fact* ſet forth: Neither do I underſtand what Books you mean.

7. *You ſay that* Oates *wrote the* Plot, firſt, *at* —— *in* Greek Characters; *and that afterward they went both to* Fox-Hall.

But you do not ſay, why in *Greek*; what became of the Copy; what Diſcourſe upon it; what Aſſiſtants.

ſtants, or Adviſers; what was done afterwards at *Fox-Hall*; how they came to go thither.

8. *You ſay that One of the Jeſuits Letters is in your Fathers hand.*

But not which of them: Nor (*in one word*) How you come to know all this; Or who can ſpeak to all theſe *Particulars?*

9. *You deſire the Sight of your* Father's Papers; *but ſay not* in whoſe Cuſtody they are.

You *Proteſt* the *Truth* of all you ſay, as in *the Preſence of Almighty God*: And in the *Name of that Almighty God*, I *Adjure* you, *and Entreat* you, to ſay nothing but *Truth*; if you ſhall think fit to make me any Return to this Letter: And if you ſhall by ſuch an Explanation as the Matter requires, furniſh me with a *Reaſonable Ground* to proceed upon; I will plainly and honeſtly repreſent the ſtate of the Caſe, as you lay it before me: and do as may become,

From my Houſe in *Holborn*, *Dec.* 31. 1681.

Your kind Friend,

R. L'S.

P. S. This is my Second to you, in Anſwer to your *Firſt*, and *Onely* Letter to me, ſince One in *September* was Twelve Month. Pray keep an account of what you *Send*, and *Receive*; for I'le do every thing *Above-board*.

To take the Matter in Order as it was; The next I received from *Tonge*, was, That which follows, being Dated *Jan.* 2. and *received the Day following*.

Mr,

Mr. *L'Eſtrange,*

I Received yours, and am very deſirous of the *Truth*, being very confident that a great deal of Roguery and Villany lyes ſtill undiſcovered at the bottom of the *Plot*. But I am no wayes able to anſwer thoſe Queſtions you Propoſe to me, ſo as to give you any tolerable ſatisfaction, unleſs that I were in Poſſeſſion of my Fathers Papers, which would beſt clear what you deſire. After my Fathers Death, I was enform'd, that thoſe Papers he left at *Colleges* Houſe, were ſeiz'd by the *Councell*, and my *Uncle*, under pretence of *Adminiſtring* for me has ſeiz'd on the reſt. This I am certain of, that if thoſe Papers ever come to light they will diſcover very ſtrange things. I have been now confin'd upwards of a *Twelve-month*; and am now in a very *Indigent Condition* on the *Common-ſide* of the *Kings-Bench*, having no other *Subſiſtence* then the *Basket*: and the place I am in is no wayes ſuitable for writing, or any thing of ſerious thoughts. I Queſtion not your Zeal for his *Majeſty*, and the *Royal Family*; and I think you could not do a greater ſervice than to enquire, if you can any wayes know which way my Fathers Papers were diſpoſed. Untill that be found out, I ſhall be in the dark, and no way able to give ye any tollerable reſult to any Queſtions: For the *Popiſh Plot*, by reaſon of the ſeveral Perſons concerned in it, is ſo *Intricate* a thing, that to unravell it from firſt to laſt, and give you a Particular account of all the ſeveral Tranſactions, is more then I dare Aſſume upon me; and by reaſon of my confinement, I have forgot many material things, which before would have occur'd

to my memory: and therefore of neceſſity muſt have ſome aſſiſtance of my Fathers writings e're I can proceed. I am

Kings-Bench the Common-ſide, Jan.2.1681.

Your Loving Friend, and Servant,

Simſon Tonge.

P. S. *I Requeſt a Word of Anſwer from you to this Letter.*

Any man with half an Eye may ſee the Drift of this Paper. The *Charity* of a *Single ſix pence* would have paſs'd for a *Subornation*. *My have Enquiry after his Fathers Papers* would have been a *Tampering, to Invalidate the Kings Evidence.* And ſuch an *Anſwer* as he deſires in his *Poſtſcript*, to this Letter, would have ruin'd me to all Intents and Purpoſes. At the ſame time with the former of the *ſecond*, I received from him alſo this following Letter. Superſcribed, *For his Honoured Friend* Roger L'Eſtrange.

Honoured Sir,

I Received yours of the laſt *Inſtant*, (miſtaken for *Dec.* 31.) and do briefly return you this Anſwer, untill I can better recollect my memory.

1. As to your firſt Queſtion, what means was uſed to bring me to accuſe you, when I was examind'd before Mr. *Bridgman*, at Captain *Richardſon's* Houſe, *Oates* asked me if you were not concern'd with me, I told him I had ſeen you once, but could not accuſe you of any thing; then he replyed he knew the contrary, and if I would not diſcover it, it ſhould be the worſe for me, and threatn'd me very much, but proferred

ferred me no money; and none were preſent with me, but Mr. *Bridgman*, his Clerk and *Oates*.

2. The firſt Meſſage I had, from my Uncle Captain *Tonge*, was by a young man that waited on him; who brough me a letter, and deſir'd me to come to him to the *Golden Anchor* in the *Strand*, whether I came, and having drunk ſeveral Bottles of *Canary* with him, I deſir'd to take my leave of him; who importun'd me to ſtay, and then call'd for ſeveral Bottles more: and ſaid he had a Paper that I muſt ſign, and finding me unwilling, he drunk me to ſuch a pitch that I was quite drunk, and then I ſign'd the Paper.

He ſent likewiſe twice for me to the Half *Moon* in the *Strand*, where he likewiſe drunk me very high, and ſaid he would give me ſome allowance towards my relief, and ſent one Mrs. *Lamb* to me with half a Crown, and promiſed that hence forwards he would ſend me three ſhillings and ſix pence a week, which I conſtantly had ſent me till of late.

The arguments he made uſe of were, that though I were impriſon'd, I ſhould be ſupply'd with what neceſſaries I wanted, and that he would endeavour to purchaſe me my liberty, and diſcharge my Chamber Rent, and Fees on the *Maſter-ſide* of the *Kings-Bench*.

My Father uſed to take Notes out of a great Book, it was a Suppliment after *Hollinſhed* left off, and was joyn'd to his, and was writ as I have heard him ſay by one *How*, or *Howe*, and there were other little Books written by *Hocker* or *Hopper*, that was the Witneſs, and Proſecuted the *Jeſuits*.

I do not very well remember which, but it may be found by comparing the Letters with *Oates* and my *Fathers* Hand.

One *E*---------- knows much; for he helped to write ſome of the Papers which my Father left were taken at *College's* Houſe, and my Uncle ſent one Mr. *H-* to me, in the *Kings-Bench*, and brought one who was a ſtranger to me, with a Paper, to *Adminiſter* on my behalf, and ſign'd it, and under pretence of *Adminiſtring* for me hath ſeiz'd on the reſt of my Fathers Papers.

That Mr. *H--* ſtudies *Phyſick*, and lives not far from *C*----- but I cannot remember the Court, but the Perſon he Lodges near, is *High-Conſtable*.

Sir, I can make no better Anſwer at preſent, becauſe I have no place to recollect my ſelf: In the mean time I deſire you would accept of this, which is no other then the Truth, from

Your Humble Servant,

Simſon Tongue.

Here follows my Anſwer, *Jan.* 3. to *Two* from *Tonge* received together.

Mr. Tonge,

Mrs. —— *has brought me a Letter from you this Morning of* Jan. 2. 1681. *and another Encloſed in it without Date. The Account you pretend to give of your Affairs, is very Imperfect; and* you miſtake your ſelf, in ſeeming to underſtand me, as if I had put any Queſtions to you: *I only told you, that your Relation concerning the Matter, whereupon you propounded to Petition the* King, *fell ſhort in many Particulars. I know very well how*

Low Liable Words *are to* miſconſtruction, *and* I will not meddle in any thing which is not as Clear as the Sun. *I know nothing of* your Father's Papers: *If you have any thing to offer me, you muſt either Declare in the ſame Paper, that* it is your own voluntary Act, *or elſe I'le not meddle in it. But wherein ſoever I can do you a* Civility, *that I may Honeſtly juſtifie, I am ready to ſhew my ſelf,*

Your Loving Friend,

Jan. 3. 1681.

Ro. L'Eſtrange.

Here follows another Letter of *Tonge*, of *Jan.* 5.

King's Bench, the *Common-ſide*,

Mr. *L'Eſtrange*, Jan. 5. 1681.

FInding that my Two laſt Letters to you were Imperfect, I ſend you this Third, and Requeſt you would be pleas'd to ſend me the largeſt Letter, that I may take a *Copy* of it. The *Contrivance* was thus: That under the pretence of a *Popiſh Plot*, (which my *Father* firſt Imagin'd was on foot, and afterwards *Oates* at his *Second Return*, ſwore to be true) Their main and principal Deſign was to Diſinherit His *Royal Highneſs*. The Firſt perſons that manag'd the *Plot*, and were privy to it, were my *Father Oates*, &c. The laſt time I was with *B*——, he told me he had ſomething to write, that was not fit to be nam'd, but he had burnt it; and ſaid, he was afraid thoſe Papers would make him mad, ſhould he write any longer; and that my Father would truſt none but him to Tranſcribe them, and he could not deny him, becauſe he had no other *Livelihood*.

My

My Father advis'd *Oates* to write the *Plot* in *Greek Letters*, becauſe that none but themſelves might be privy to what was doue.

The *Copy* which was in *Greek Letters* was burnt by *Oates*.

When they came to *Fox-Hall*, Mr. ------ was taken in for an *Aſſiſtant*, after he had been ſworn to Secrecy.

They went to *Fox-Hall* by my Father's advice, to the end they might be the more private, where thoſe Papers they wrote at ---------- were put into Form, and deliver'd in to the *Council*.

After they all Three remov'd from *Fox-Hall*, and Nail'd up the Chamber-door, having left ſeveral Papers behind; and my Father underſtanding by *Mr. Lambert*, that the Door was broken up by the *Landlord*, and the Papers like to be ſeiz'd on, was much troubl'd at it, and ſent away the Rent that was due by his Man *Richard* -------- now living at ---------- who brought back the *Papers* with him, and can Teſtifie the ſame.

Sir, I have no Chamber nor Conveniency to write, and beſides have a very great Cold upon me; but requeſt you would be pleas'd to accept of this, which is upon a ſecond Recollection of my Thoughts, which is my own voluntary Act; and I have been under great Trouble of Conſcience ever ſince I went from my Evidence, ana many times ready to Deſpair, but that *Mrs.* ---- coming to ſee a Priſoner, I deſir'd her to look out ſome Papers I had left at her Houſe; and I ſent to you, being you were the Perſon I had wronged, and therefore thought it my Duty to acknowledge

ledge my Fault, which I do now again, and Proteſt, that what I have done is neither in hope of Favour, nor Reward, but to diſcharge a good Conſcience, and to ſhew that I am truly Penitent. And am

Your verieſt Commandable

Servant,

Simſon Tonge.

In Anſwer to this as follows.

Mr. *Tonge*, *Jan.* 6. 1682.

ALthough you have ſo exceedingly forfeited your Credit in the former Abuſes you put upon the King; and others that believed you, that you cannot expect much weight to be laid upon your ſingle word, for any thing, yet having dealt ſo openly, and ſo particularly, (and all on your own accord too) in a Letter to me of *Yeſterday*, I cannot but hope that you are a true *Convert*.

You have named ſeveral Perſons that were Privy to the matter of Fact there in Queſtion. You ſhall do well to bethink your ſelf both where they may be found, and what particulars they can ſpeak to. And what you ſay, let it be in the *Awe of Devine Juſtice, and Eternal Damnation* if you bely any Creature. I will endeavour to do you good ſome honeſt way or other: but I dare not venture to ſee you, or ſpeak with you, for fear of Miſ-conſtruction. This is all I can ſay at preſent.

Your Loving Friend,

R. L'Eſtrange.

This

This was followed by another, from *Tonge, Jan.* 6. 16.

Mr. L'Estrange, Jan. 10. 1682.

I Am very sensible that my single word will be but of small moment. However as I declare nothing but the Truth, yet if by declaring what others can Testifie, I can be any ways Instrumental to the further discovery of it, I should not a little joyce. [—*having writ all the Papers which related to the History of the Plot, can give account of the whole contrivance, and the several meetings that my* Father, Oates, &c. *had. He is the only man in Town, could he be found out,* &c.]

I have a great cold with sitting on the ground to make Pegg', as I do all the week, and must work very hard for three-half pence a day, which is all I have, &c.— *I am barefooted, and almost naked. I must confess, I have deserved far worse than this*; but God that hath promised that at what time soever a Sinner doth truly Repent, he will have mercy, will, I hope, look upon my unfeigned Repentance, *and encline His Majesties Royal Heart to pitty and pardon me, if you please to impart my sorrowfull Estate unto the King; and to let His Gracious Majesty know how I was* Trepann'd *by my* Uncle; *for the which I am very sorrowfull, and am still.*

Pray Sir consider the sad Condition of

Your Poor Servant,

Simson Tonge.

There never was such a Penitent certainly to all manner of purposes; but I began now to have enough of him, and in a short Letter of the Day following put an end to the Correspondence.

Mr.

Mr. Tonge. Jan. 11. 1681.

I Dare not presume to trouble the King in your Affair. But I will do you all the good I can in what Case soever the matter will Honestly bear it.

Your Loving Friend,

R. L'Estrange.

By this time, *Tonge*, and his *Advisers*, finding that they could not Compass their End; and Mr. *Thompson's News-Paper* having given Vent to the Design, they lay'd their Heads together to make the best Retreat they could; and to Face a *Shamm* upon the World, as if *L'Estrange had been already up to the Ears in a New Plot*: But they were so Thankful however as to Cover the Back-side of the Poor Fellow for his *Good-Will*, put some few Pence in his Pocket, and preserve him from Starving this bout, in hope of a more favourable Opportunity. But this shall not serve their Turn, if there be any Reverence left for the Memory of the *Popish Plot*; or any Justice to be obtain'd upon Those Miscreants that make it their business to teare up the very Foundation of it by the Roots; For the worst is yet to come, and *under Tonge's Hand*, and *by him Attested*, as well as all the rest.

When I came from the University (says he) *in the Year 77. I found* Oates *with my* Father, *in a very poor Condition, who complained he knew not what to do to get Bread; who went under the Name of* Ambrose. *My Father took him home, and gave him Cloaths, Lodging, and Dyet, saying he would put him into a way.*

And then he perswaded him to get acquainted among the Papists; *and when he had done so, then my Father told him, there had been many* Plots *in* England *to bring*

in Popery, *and if he would go over among the* Jesuites, *and Observe their ways, it was possible it might be One way; and if he could make it out, it would be his Preferment for ever. But however, if he could get their* Names, *and a little* Acquaintance *from the* Papists, *it would be an Easie matter to stir up the People to fear* Popery.] And again, *My* Father *and* He (*Dr.* Oates) *went and Lodg'd at* Fox-Hall, *at One* Lamberts, *a* Bell-Founder, (*which House was call'd by the Neighbours the* Plot-House; *And there* Oates's Narrative *was Written; whereof* several Copies *were Written, very* Different, *the One from the Other; and the* Four Jesuites *Letters* (*wherein* Oates *pretended was the whole Discovery*) *were* Counterfeits, *&c.*

All this I have to shew under *Tonge*'s Hand, and I Appeal to Men and Angels, if, it be not the Boldest Attempt that ever was yet made upon the Credit of the *Popish Conspiracy*: And sufficient to shake any Man's Faith, as to That Point, that were not Proof against the Utmost Effects of *Malice*, *Impudence*, and *Imposture*. So many Particulars, so Boldly, and Openly Attested; in the Face of so many *Witnesses*, *Trials*, *Convictions*, *Sentences*, and *Executions*! And all This, Expresly Level'd at the *Honour* of our *Parliaments*, and the *Dignity* of *Publique Justice* with only the Profligate, and Faithless Practices of the Instrument to Weigh against the Impious Design, and the Desperate Effects and Consequences of so Daring a Scandal. But let the Suggestions be never so Incredible and Ridiculous; it is a thing of great Mischief yet to suffer the Authors of these Bruits and Rumours to pass Unpunish'd: for Malevolent Spirits will be apt to say; *If there were not something in't, how is it that the Reporters of these Fables cannot escape?* The Best thing he has to say for himself, will be, perhaps, that he has not so much publish'd These *Shamms* by way of *Affront* to the *Plot*, as thrown them out for a *Bait* for *L'Estrange* to Chop at: So that the *Credit* of the *Protestant Religion*, and the *English*

English Government must, at this rate, be *Expos'd*, upon the Experiment of Trying to Engage, and Hamper *L'Estrange* in the *Intrigue*. But alas! I am so thoroughly satisfied in the Business of the *Plot*; and the whole Scheme of it is so Perfectly, and Distinctly in my Head, that I have not the least Curiosity in the World to know more on't; Beside; That *In vain is the Net spread in the sight of the Bird*. I have not Concern'd my self to Hunt after *his Fathers Papers*, to Trace out *his Fathers Agents*; nor Directly, or Indirectly made any sort of Applications Pursuant to his *Purpose*, and *Desire*; but Innocently held him in play with *Letter* for *Letter*, to keep up the *Rest*.

The Only Thing that stuck with me upon the thought of this Publication, was the Nicety of Committing those Papers to a Publique View, which might seem perhaps to be deposited in my Hands under some sort of *Confidence*, and *Trust*: But when I consider'd, on the other hand, that These Letters were meant only as *Snares* to me under the Semblance of That *Confidence*, I was my own Confessor in the Case, and easily discharg'd my self of That Scruple: And not without a Further Sense neither of Duty to the Government.

In Conclusion; I have here made a Fair Discovery of a Foul Practice, both upon the *Publique*, and upon my *Self*; I was to have been *Trapann'd* the *One* way, and *Tonge* is *Detected* the *Other*. I shall remit the rest to the Wisdom of my Superiors, how far it may be either Safe, or Expedient to Encourage this way of Proceeding; Even to the Violation of *Common-Faith*, and *Secrecy*. *The Plot's a* Sham (says *Tonge*;) If *L'Estrange* says so too, 'tis almost as much as his Neck's worth: Why should not This *Scandalous Affront* now, be as *Dangerous* to *Tonge* for the *Starting* of it, as it would have been to *L'Estrange* if he had *Joyn'd* in't? *Trapanning* will become a *Trade*, (Nay, and *Forswearing* too) if Men shall find it their *Interest*, First to play the *Knaves*, or the *Cheats*, and then (as I said before) come off for the *Discovery*, and set up for *Informers*. This is the Case; and if I had done less, I had been wanting both to the *Publique*, and to *My Self*.

FINIS.

English Government must, at this rate, be Expir'd, upon the Experiment of Trying to Engage, and Hamper L'Estrange in the Mirror. But alas! I am so thoroughly satisfied in the Business of the Fiction; and the whole Scheme of it is so Perfectly, and Distinctly in my Head, that I have not the least Curiosity in the World to know more on't; Beside; That *In vain is the Net Spread in the sight of the Bird.* I have not Concern'd my self to Hunt after *his Fathers Papers*, to Trace out *his Fathers Adviser*; nor Directly, or Indirectly made any sort of Applications Personal to *his Parents*, and *Tutors*; but Innocently held him in play with *Lettri for Letter*, to keep up the *Key*.

The Only Thing that stuck with me upon the thought of this Publication, was the Nicety of Committing those Papers to a Publique View, which might seem perhaps to be deposited in my Hands under some sort of *Confidence*, and *Trust*. But when I consider'd, on the other hand, that These Letters were meant only as *Snares* to me under the Semblance of That *Confidence*, I was my own Confessor in the Case, and easily discharg'd my self of That Scruple; *Nil* since without a Further Sense neither of Duty to the Government.

In Conclusion; I have here made a Fair Discovery of a Foul Practice, both upon the *Fair Jar*, and upon my *Self*; I was to have been *Trapped* the *One way*, and *Tonge* is *Decoded* the *Other*, I shall render the rest to the Wisdom of my Superiors, how far it may be either Safe, or Expedient to Encourage this way of Proceeding; [illegible] Violation of [illegible] and Secrecy. [illegible] (*Sir Tonge*) *L'Estrange* says so too, 'tis almost as much as his Neck's worth: Why should not This *Scandalous Spirit* now, be as *Dangerous* to *Tonge* for the *Starting* of it, as it would have been to *L'Estrange* if he had *Jam'd* in't? [illegible] will become a *Trade*, (May, and [illegible] too) [illegible] Fall find it their [illegible]. Prize to play the [illegible] or the *Cheats*, and then (as I said before) come off for the *Discovery*, and set up for *Informers*. This is the Case; and if I had done less, I had been wanting both to the *Publique*, and to *My Self*.

FINIS.